



COMMUNITY RENEWABLE ENERGY

APPLETON AND SPAUNTON COMMUNITY ENERGY GROUP

Notes of Meeting

Monday 21st August 2006
The Reading Rooms, Appleton-le-Moors

Present – Helen Beaumont, June Emerson, Dave Hall, Jim Hall, Judie Holliday, Peter Jones, David Morris, Ann Procope, Dave Rawlings, Petra Slangen, Nelly Trevelyan,

Apologies - Richard Gunton,

Introductions

New members introduced themselves. Dave Hall lives locally and has just retired from working as an engineer at RAF Fylingdales, He is keen to make improvements to his home to include energy efficiency and possibly generating his own electricity, by either photovoltaic panels or domestic scale wind power. Petra Slangen is the North York Moors National Park External Funding Officer and will be helping to source funding for the CREP to continue and any specific projects the energy groups wish to pursue.

General Funding

At previous meetings Richard Gunton had indicated that Yorkshire Forward would be able to fund capital projects, however they have recently been in touch to say that this is not now the case as they are having budget difficulties. This means they will not now be able to fund the demonstration house project. Petra, who is not concentrating her efforts into seeking funding for the CREP believes that other funding can be found for this and any further projects. As long as the group is formally set up, grants can be applied for, being a registered charity may also open some funding opportunities if the group should decide to go that way. She also told the group about an organisation called Prohelp who may be able to provide professional services free of charge. Ryedale District Council Community Investment Fund may be able to provide funds. Petra will pass on the details of this fund to the group for its consideration. Initially it appeared that the withdrawal of funding by Yorkshire Forward would be bad news, however the group should be optimistic about funding available from other sources.

Community Wind Project

This is now at a stage when a further feasibility study needs to be undertaken. George Munson (Yorkshire Forward) has given Dave R a list of consultants to approach to tender for the feasibility studies. Dave R, Nelly, Peter and Judie are to meet Vicki and Nigel who have offered to advise the group on putting together a brief for the tender. Nelly has had a letter from the

MOD stating that they would object to any wind turbine which was in line of sight of Staxton Wold EWS, however this is their standard reply and they are willing to negotiate. Dave H said that as far as he was aware there should be no problem with radar interference for a single turbine, the problems are with wind farms.

Biomass District Heating Scheme

There are still a lot questions about setting up a District Heating Scheme, such as how many houses would be needed to make it viable, who would fund the installation etc., etc. It was felt that this project would be much more community based with those taking part having to be very involved with the scheme and local suppliers being involved. Vicki and Nigel will advice on the tender brief.

Energy Efficiency

It is generally felt by the group that the wider community have nothing to see with regard to what the group has done so far. To help to rectify this situation Dave G and Jim are to be trained as "Energy Champions" by attending a course which will give them the skills to be able to advice other residents about energy efficiency in their homes. Jim is currently researching the courses that are available. National Energy Action run different courses, one is a one day course and the other is linked to a City and Guilds Course over three days. It is hoped that Jim can negotiate a tailor made course to last no more than two days and will be held in the village hall. The York EEAC have offered to support Jim and Dave G when they start their surveying.

Newsletter

Judie circulated the final draft of the Newsletter. Slight amendments were suggested and agreed. Judie will print 110 and pass to Jim, who will arrange distribution.

AOB

Judie will produce and circulate posters for the film show.

Petra said that the new visitor centre at Dalby is now open and she invited the group a viewing. She will arrange this for late in October.

Nelly informed the group that the Spaunton Organic Mill is having an Open Day on 6th September, all invited.

Next meeting

Monday 25th September 2006 in the Reading Rooms at 7.30pm